

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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FOUR ADULTS CITED FOR FURNISHING ALCOHOL TO MINORS

ABC AND EL SEGUNDO POLICE VISIT 3 SEPARATE LOCATIONS

Investigators from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and El Segundo Police cited four individuals in an undercover decoy operation targeting adults who purchase alcoholic beverages for minors. 15 patrons were asked at three separate El Segundo locations to purchase alcohol for a minor on Wednesday, December 7, 2005 during a Shoulder Tap Decoy Operation.

Under the program, a minor under the direct supervision of a peace officer will stand outside a liquor or convenience store and ask patrons to buy them alcoholic beverages. The minor indicates in some way that he or she is underage and cannot purchase the alcoholic beverage.

If the adults purchase alcohol for the minor, Investigators arrest and cite them for furnishing alcoholic beverages to the minor. The penalty for furnishing alcohol to a minor is a minimum \$1,000 fine and 24 hours of community service.

The program is intended to reduce the availability of alcoholic beverages to minors, who have a higher rate of drunken driving crashes than adults in general. According to the American Medical Association, underage drinking increases incidences of risky sexual behavior and teen pregnancy, juvenile delinquency, compromises health, and results in unintentional injury and death.

ABC is a Department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Sunne Wright-McPeak, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.

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